

In the Claims

1. (Original) A method for at least inhibiting the growth of anaerobic bacteria sensitive to BLIS-producing *S. salivarius*, the method comprising contacting the sensitive bacteria with an inhibitory effective amount of a BLIS-producing *S. salivarius*, or an extract thereof, or a composition comprising said *S. salivarius* or extract thereof.

2. (Currently amended) [[A]] The method according to claim 1, wherein the anaerobic bacteria are in the oral cavity of an individual.

3. (Original) A method of prophylactic or therapeutic treatment of halitosis in an individual in need thereof, the method comprising administering to said individual a BLIS-producing *S. salivarius*, extract thereof, or composition comprising said *S. salivarius* or extract thereof, effective to at least inhibit growth of anaerobic bacteria, or in an amount to allow effective colonisation in the oral cavity of the individual by BLIS-producing *S. salivarius*.

4. (Original) A method of controlling the incidence and/or severity of halitosis, the method comprising introducing into the oral cavity of an individual susceptible to halitosis, an amount of a BLIS-producing *S. salivarius*, extract thereof, or composition comprising said *S. salivarius* or extract thereof, effective to control the incidence and/or severity of said halitosis.

5. (Currently amended) [[A]] The method according to claim 4, wherein the halitosis is caused at least in part by one or more species of anaerobic bacteria.

6. (Currently amended) [[A]] The method according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 5~~ claim 3, wherein the anaerobic bacteria are selected from strains of:

- (i) black-pigmented species;
- (ii) Eubacterium; and/or and
- (iii) Micromonas species.

7. (Currently amended) [[A]] The method according to claim 6, wherein the black-pigmented species are Prevotella species.

8-10. (Cancelled)

11. ((Currently amended) [[A]] The method according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 10~~ claim 3, wherein the *S. salivarius* produce one or more of Salivaricin A, Salivaricin A₁, Salivaricin A₂, Salivaricin B, or variants of any one of these.

12. (Currently amended) [[A]] The method according to claim 11, wherein the *S. salivarius* produces Salivaricin B or a variant thereof.

13. (Currently amended) [[A]] The method according to claim 12, wherein the *S. salivarius* also produces Salivaricin A₂ or a variant thereof.

14. (Currently amended) [[A]] The method according to claim 13, wherein the Salivaricin producer is *S. salivarius* strain K12, on deposit at Deutsche Sammlung von Mikroorganismen Und Zellkulturen GmbH, Braunschweig, Germany, accession number DSM 13084.

15. (Currently amended) [[A]] The method according to claim 13, wherein the Salivaricin producer is *S. salivarius* strain K30, on deposit at Deutsche Sammlung von Mikroorganismen Und Zellkulturen GmbH, Braunschweig, Germany, accession number DSM 13085.

16-19. (Cancelled)

20. (Currently amended) [[A]] The method according to any one of claims 1 to 19 claim 3, wherein the composition includes a BLIS-producing *S. salivarius* or an extract thereof, in combination with a diluent, carrier and/or excipient.

21. (Currently amended) [[A]] The method according to claim 20, wherein the composition is an orally administrable composition.

22. (Currently amended) [[A]] The method according to claim 21, wherein the orally administrable composition is formulated as a lozenge, spray, mouth rinse, toothpaste, dentifrice, gargle, capsule, floss, film, chewing gum or chewable tablet.

23. (Currently amended) [[A]] The method according to claim 21, wherein the composition is formulated as a lozenge.

24. (Currently amended) [[A]] The method according to any one of claims 20 to 23 claim 20, wherein the composition is in unit dosage form.

25. (Currently amended) [[A]] The method according to any one of claims 19 to 23 claim 20, wherein the composition further comprises one or more secondary antibacterial agents.

26. (Currently amended) [[A]] The method according to claim 24 claim 25, wherein the secondary antibacterial agent(s) are selected from bacteriocin-like inhibitory substance(s) (BLIS).

27. (Currently amended) [[A]] The method according to any one of claims 1 to 19 claim 3, wherein said *S. salivarius*, [[or]] extract or composition thereof is included in a food, drink, or confectionary.

28. (Currently amended) [[A]] The method according to any one of claims 2 to 27 claim 3, wherein the inhibitory or controlling effect is caused by at least partial colonisation of the oral cavity of an individual with a BLIS-producing *S. salivarius*.

29. (Currently amended) [[A]] The method according to claim 28, wherein the method includes a preliminary step of pre-treating said individual to at least reduce the bacterial population present in the oral cavity.

30. (Currently amended) [[A]] The method according to claim 28, wherein the pre-treatment comprises physical removal of bacteria and/or administration of an antibacterial agent.

31. (Currently amended) [[A]] The method according to claim 30 wherein the antibacterial agent is selected from chlorine dioxide and chlorhexidine.

32. (Cancelled)

33. (Original) A method of controlling the incidence or severity of halitosis in an individual, the method comprising the steps of:

(i) scraping the tongue of the individual;
(ii) gargling or rinsing with chlorine dioxide; and
(iii) administering to the resulting bacterially depopulated oral cavity an amount of a BLIS-producing *S. salivarius*, extract thereof, or composition comprising said *S. salivarius* or extract thereof, effective to control said halitosis.

34. (Currently amended) [[A]] The method according to claim 33, which further comprises brushing with a non-chlorhexidine containing toothpaste before gargling or rinsing with chlorine dioxide.

35. (Currently amended) [[A]] The method according to claim 33, or claim 34 wherein the chlorine dioxide is mixed with water or fruit juice.

36. (Currently amended) [[A]] The method according to claim 35, wherein the chlorine dioxide is mixed with orange juice.

37. (Currently amended) [[A]] The method according to any one of claims 33 to 37 claim 33, wherein the *S. salivarius* or extract thereof is administered in the form of a composition, ~~according to any one of claims 20 to 26; or a food, drink or confectionary-according to claim 27 comprising a BLIS-producing S. salivarius or extract thereof.~~

38. (Currently amended) [[A]] The method according to claim 37, wherein the composition is in the form of a lozenge.

39. (Currently amended) [[A]] The method according to claim 38, wherein [[the]] lozenges are administered 1 to 5 times a day.

40. (Cancelled)

41. (Currently amended) [[A]] The method according to ~~claim 40~~ claim 39, which is repeated daily for 2 to 4 days to facilitate colonisation of the oral cavity of the individual.

42. (Currently amended) [[A]] The method according to claim 41, wherein after colonisation, 1 or 2 lozenges are taken each day following ordinary tooth brushing.

43-70. (Cancelled)